

California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission “Revealing OPEBs In Your Financials: Where the Rubber Meets the Road”

California Case Studies:



Peralta Community College District

Alameda County, California

\$150,000,000 2005 OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) Bonds

Thomas L. Smith

Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance

September 25, 2006

Background

Overview of the District's OPEB

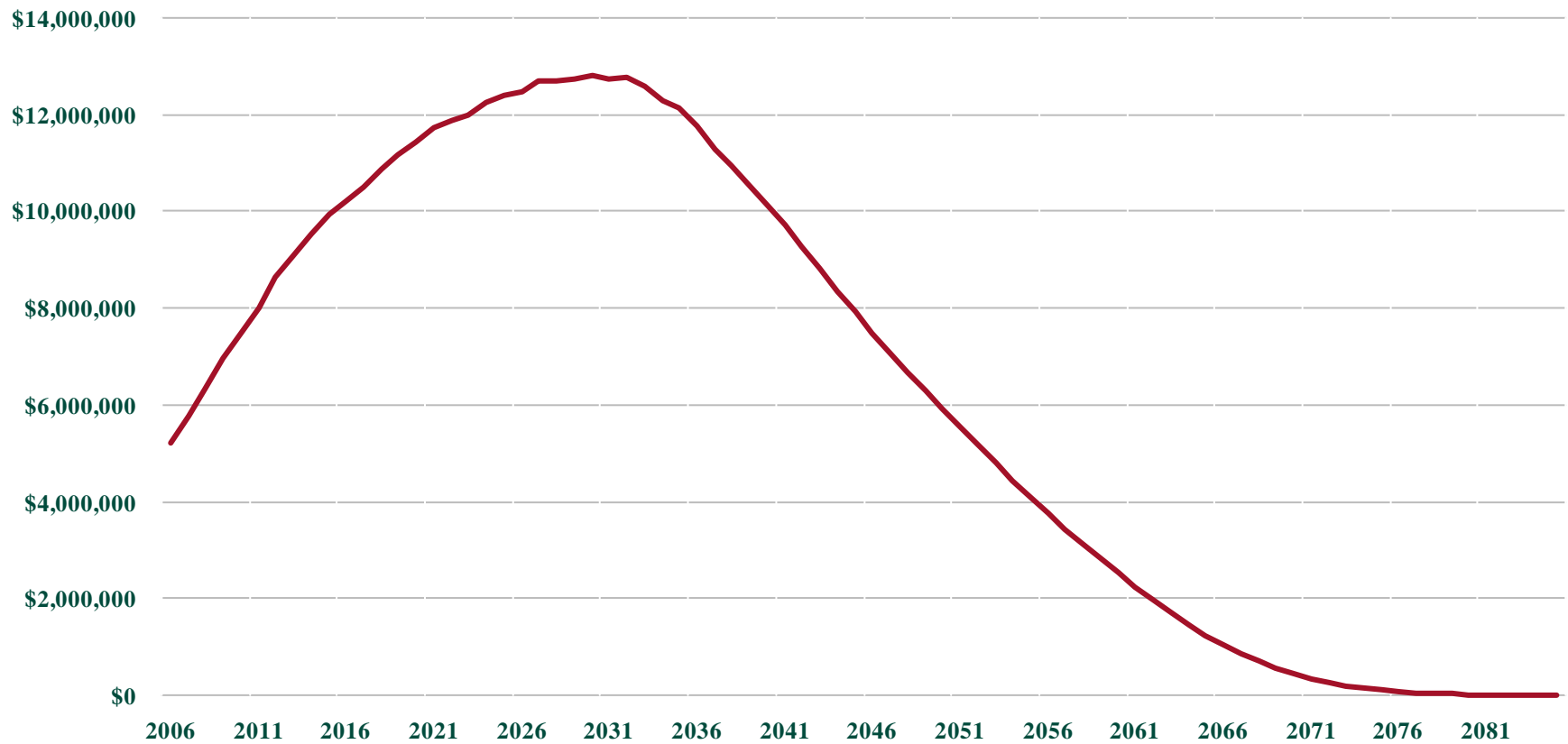
Unfunded OPEB liability poses serious financial risk to the District

- ◆ Previous agreements provide qualifying employees and their families lifetime healthcare insurance
- ◆ Although benefit has been eliminated to new employees, a significant number of retirees and current employees hired before discontinuation still qualify
- ◆ Funded on a “pay-as-you-go” basis
- ◆ Estimated net present value of benefits ranges from \$132 million (@ 7%) to \$196 million (@ 4.5%)

Funding the existing OPEB obligation was a key factor in securing labor agreements to discontinue future OPEB for new hires

Projected Pay-as-You-Go Annual Costs

Annual costs projected to double in 10 years



Source: Bartel Associates, LLC.

Challenges

Challenges

Because of unfunded OPEB, the District faced four challenges

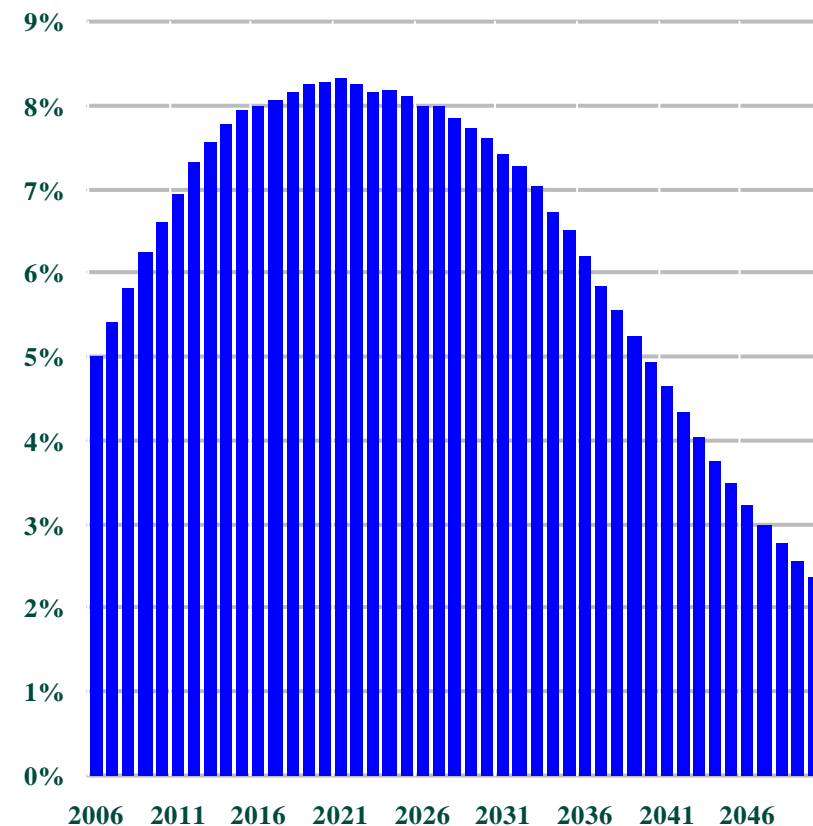
- ◆ Increased Encroachment on General Fund
- ◆ GASB 45 (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) Compliance
- ◆ Bond Rating Agency Concerns
- ◆ Public Relations / Political Fallout

Increased Encroachment on General Fund

Projected Pay-Go as % of General Fund Revenue*

- ◆ Retiree health benefits accounted for 5.00% of general fund revenues in 2005
- ◆ If “pay-as-you-go” continues, they will rise to nearly 8.50% in less than 15 years

Project Pay-Go as % of General Fund Revenue



* Assuming 2% GF revenue growth.

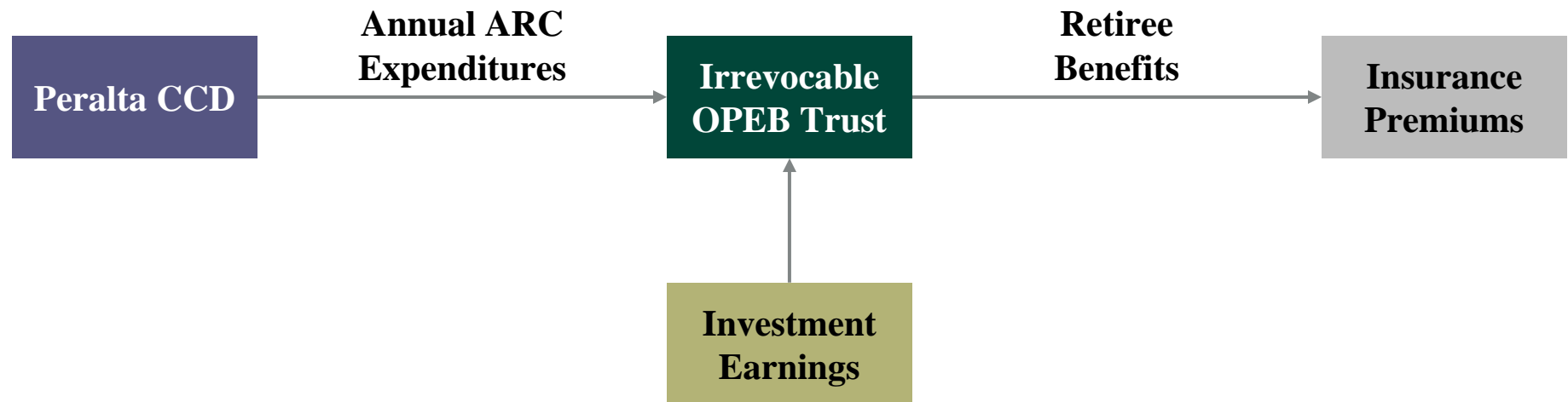
GASB 45 Compliance

GASB Statement 45 is to be implemented by 2007

- ◆ ***GASB 45 requires:*** Actuarial valuation of total OPEB liability every 2 years
- ◆ ***GASB 45 requires:*** Calculation of ***Annual Required Contribution*** (“***ARC***”) – amortized cost of unfunded liability plus benefits earned in current year
- ◆ District’s 2006 – 2007 ARC is calculated at **\$13,243,000**

GASB 45 Compliance

GASB 45 envisions creation of irrevocable OPEB Trust



- ◆ GASB 45 suggests but does not require this funding method
- ◆ Creation of an irrevocable trust may not be in District's best interests
- ◆ Funding of the ARC would raise District's 2006 – 2007 expenditures by over 250% thereby eliminating entire General Fund reserve

Alternatives Considered

Most alternatives were deemed unacceptable

- ◆ **Alternative #1:** Ignore it
 - Increased risk of future financial pressure
- ◆ **Alternative #2:** Eliminate the benefit
 - Labor issues and potential litigation
- ◆ **Alternative #3:** Fund the ARC
 - Financially impossible
- ◆ **Alternative #4:** Refinance the benefit with OPEB Bonds

OPEB Bonds offered the District the only acceptable alternative

OPEB Bond Overview

OPEB Bond Legal and Security Features

Legal structure was approved by Court; security is widely accepted by the Bond Market

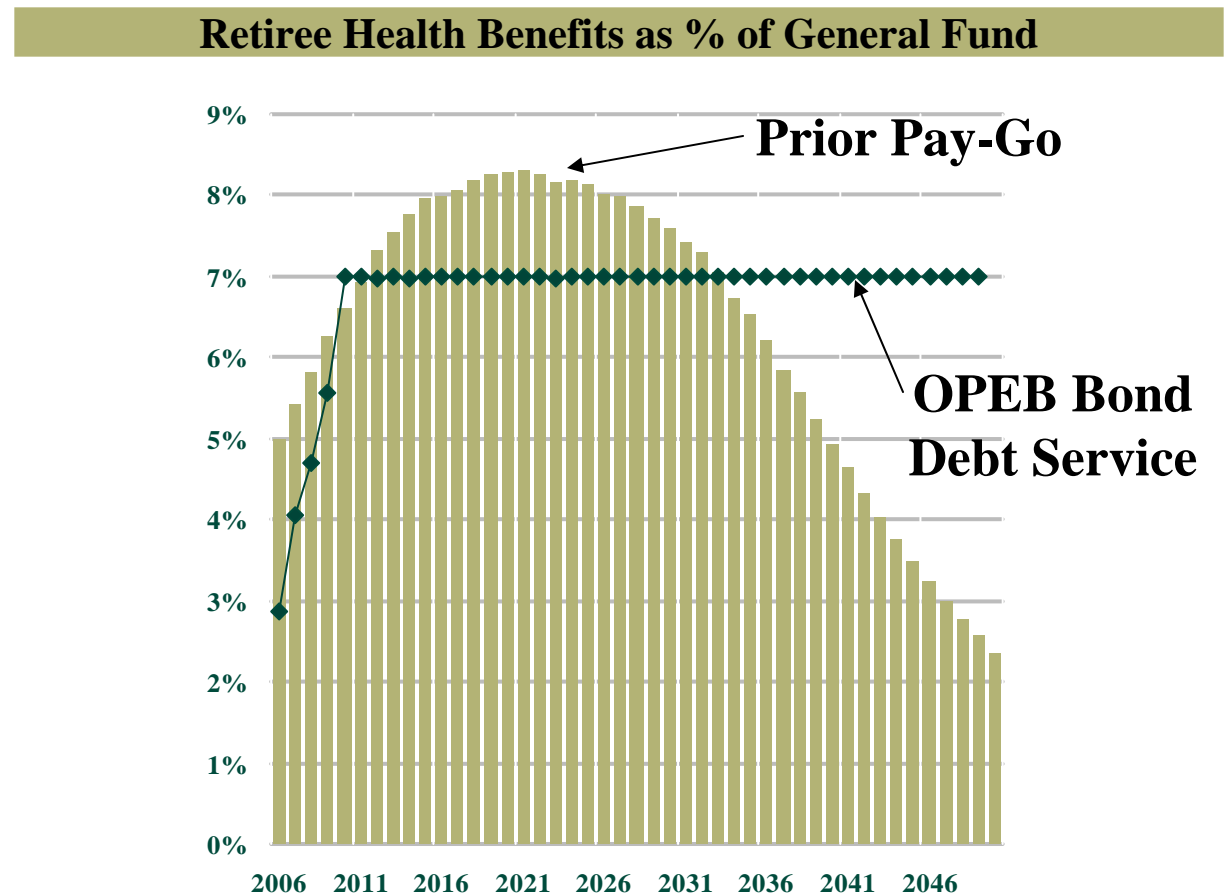
- ◆ District's financing received a judicial validation judgment from Alameda Superior Court on November 7, 2005
 - No voter approval required – refinancing an existing obligation
 - Legal debt of the District payable from all legally available sources

- ◆ “*Limited Obligation Bond*” security structure mirrors commonly issued Pension Obligation Bonds
 - No additional taxing authority

Annual OPEB Bond Payments

Projected OPEB payments are level as % of Revenues*

- ◆ OPEB Bond repayment structured to remain level at 7.0% of General Fund Revenues starting in 2011

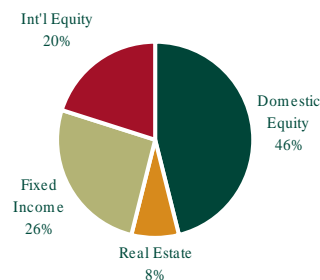


* Assumes 2.5% annual growth in General Fund Revenues.

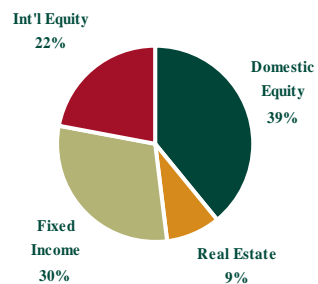
Retiree Health Benefit Program Reinvestment Strategy

OPEB Bond funds to be professionally invested in a CalPERS / ACERA-based Asset Allocation Model

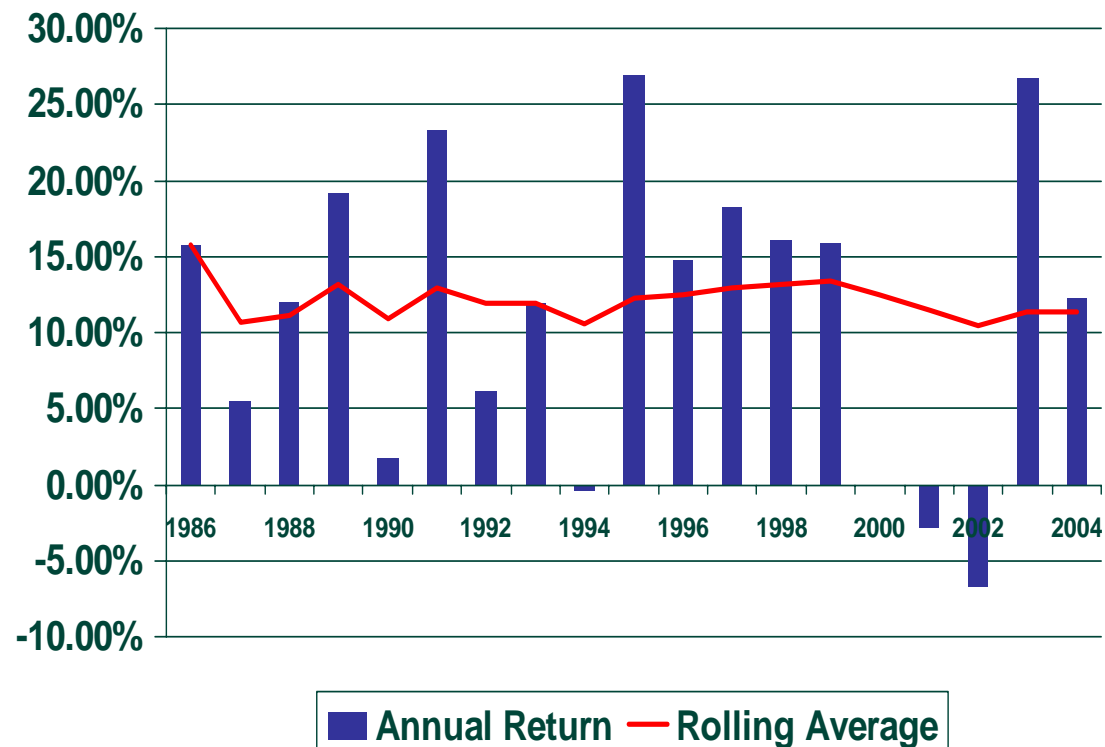
CalPERS Allocation



ACERA Allocation



CalPERS Returns 1986 – 2004



Market Acceptance

OPEB bond structure accepted in taxable bond market

“By virtue of this transaction the district anticipates that it will maintain its retiree health care costs at a constant (percentage) of budget through the 2049 final maturity of bonds as opposed to *experiencing an increase in such cost to more than 8%... over the next 15 years.*”

Standard & Poor's
December 9, 2005
(emphasis added)

Bond Attributes

- ◆ Rated A+ (S&P)
- ◆ AAA Insured (FGIC)
- ◆ TIC = 5.58%
- ◆ Initial offering 4x oversubscribed
- ◆ Global investor base